DARK HORSE COMICS

#6

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STAR WARS™

HYPERSPACE STORIES

WHEN YOU WORK FOR JABBA THE HUTT...

...FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION!

Disney

STAR WARS™

HYPERSPACE STORIES

"Inside Job"

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JABBA'S PALACE. TATOOINE.

I'D ONLY BEEN WORKING THE SCENE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

G-R-E-E-D-O. GREEDO.

YOU'RE NOT ON THE LIST. PLEASE LEAVE THE PALACE AREA.

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT IF YOU WANT THE ACE JOBS, YOU GOTTA GET IN GOOD WITH THE BIG BOSS.

CAN YOU CHECK THE LIST AGAIN?

BALGOG SENT ME. I JUST FINISHED THE *YURNO* JOB.

AH YES, I SEE *GREEDO.*

AND I'D DO ANYTHING TO GET MY FOOT IN THE DOOR.

I MADE IT. NOW TO WORK MY MAGIC.

I EVEN CAME BEARING GIFTS.

EVERYONE WAS DAZZLED BY THE ***SUNBURST GEM***, BUT I HAD MY EYE ON THE REAL PRIZE.

GETTING IN GOOD WITH ***JABBA***.

‹MOST HONORABLE AND GREAT JABBA... ›*

I'M GOING TO MAKE HIM NOTICE ME.

*TRANSLATED FROM HUTTESE.

‹...I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!›

‹IT'S... EVERYTHING YOU DESERVE!›

HE'S GOING FOR THE GEM!

HE'S GOING FOR JABBA!

I DIDN'T MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION.

HO HO HO.

〈BILLGING GRUBS. MY FAVORITE.〉

〈SHALL WE KILL HIM, ILLUSTRIOUS JABBA? SAY THE WORD.〉

THE WHOLE THRONE ROOM WAS LAUGHING AT ME. I WAS NOTHING BUT A JOKE.

〈HO HO HO. THIS RODIAN IS NOTHING BUT A HARMLESS FOOL.〉

〈I KNOW THEY'RE YOUR FAVORITE. IT WAS A GIFT!〉

EVERYONE MISUNDERSTOOD ME.

〈HE MERELY WANTED TO BE NEAR MY GREATNESS. AND LIKELY GAZE UPON MY NEWEST PRIZE...〉

〈...THE SUNBURST GEM.〉

<LET HIM LIVE TONIGHT! THERE ARE OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS TO BE HAD!>

<AS YOU WISH.>

I'D HAVE TO KEEP MY LUCK GOING IF I WANTED TO STAY ALIVE.

<A WORD OF ADVICE, GREEDO.>

<MAKE A BIGGER NAME FOR YOURSELF BEFORE YOU APPROACH GREAT JABBA AGAIN.>

<YOU'VE BEEN NOTICED. BUT NOT IN A GOOD WAY.>

<I ONLY WANTED AN AUDIENCE.>

<I'M LOOKING FOR WORK, *BIB.* BIGGER THAN WHAT I'M GETTING.>

<WORK YOUR WAY UP FROM THE BOTTOM.>

I HAD TO FOLLOW HIS ADVICE. ONLY THEN COULD I RISE.

SO I HUNG AROUND THE PALACE LIKE A MOLE-FLEA ON A MONKEY-LIZARD TRYING TO GET NOTICED.

THAT SUNBURST JEWEL IS AS BIG AS MY HAND AND AS ORANGE AS THE SETTING SUNS. WORTH A FORTUNE.

WORD IS NOW HE WANTS FURS. WILL TRADE SOME FOR REPUBLIC CODES...

I'VE GOT AN ESCORT MISSION UP FOR GRABS. EASY MONEY.

I TRIED TO PICK UP WHATEVER ODD JOBS I COULD.

I'LL TAKE IT! I'M LOOKING FOR WORK.

WHO ARE YOU?

GREEDO.

COME BACK IF YOU'RE STILL ALIVE IN TWO YEARS, NEW KID. OTHERWISE, SCRAM.

BUT I WAS TOO EAGER.

I'VE GOT A KIDNAPPING, WHO WANTS IT? I'M LOOKING TO SWAP IT FOR AN EASY ASSASSIN JOB...

WORD IS THAT THERE'S A ROGUE WOOKIEE CAUSING JABBA TROUBLE IN THE SMUGGLER LANES...

I WAS A BROKE NOBODY.

CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING ELSE? OR ARE YOU STILL NURSING THAT FIRST DRINK?

I WAS BARELY SCRAPING BY, LIVING DAY TO DAY AT THE BOTTOM.

WHO IS THAT?

THAT'S THE NEW HEADLINER. QUICKLY BECOMING A PALACE FAVE.

BUT INSTEAD OF FINDING A WAY IN WITH THE BIG BOSS...

...I FOUND HER...

BENNUN GLAU.

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SHE WAS TROUBLE FROM THE MINUTE I SAW HER.

BUT I WAS YOUNG AND A FOOL.

I FELT LIKE SHE WAS SINGING TO ME. SHE MADE ME FEEL BOLD.

SHE HAD NO IDEA I EXISTED, BUT I WAS IN LOVE.

I COULDN'T GET TRACTION AT THE PALACE FOR JOBS, BUT I HAD ANOTHER REASON TO COME EVERY NIGHT.

TO HEAR BENNUN GLAU SING.

<THAT'S IT FOR ME, FOLKS.>

<BENNUN GLAU! HER VOICE IS AS PRECIOUS AS MY SUNBURST GEM! SHE IS A JEWEL!>

TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT. I'M GOING TO ASK BENNUN IF SHE'LL BE MY GAL.

WITH A GAL LIKE THAT, THERE'S NO STOPPING ME GETTING NOTICED BY JABBA!

COME!

GREEDO, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE A REGULAR. I'VE SEEN YOU IN THE CROWD, BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER SWING BY...

UNTIL ONE DAY, IT WAS LIKE THE TWIN SUNS OF *TATOOINE* WERE SHINING JUST ON ME.

BENNUN, I'M ALL YOURS. I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.

ANYTHING?

SHE HAD HER HOOKS IN ME.

ANYTHING.

GIVE ME THE CODES AND I'LL BE ON MY WAY.

SHE HAD ME DOING THINGS FOR HER. STRANGE THINGS. ODD JOBS.

AND THESE ARE PURE-GRADE FUEL CELLS, RIGHT?

TOP GRADE.

I DIDN'T QUESTION WHERE SHE WAS GETTING THE CREDITS.

AND YOU SAY SHE'LL MAKE GOOD TIME? I NEED THE BEST SHIP.

YOU CAN'T DO BETTER FOR THE PRICE YOU'RE OFFERING.

I'LL TAKE IT. PUT IT IN MY NAME.

ALL I KNEW WAS THAT BENNUN WAS MAKING THINGS HAPPEN.

I'LL TAKE THEM ALL.

AND I WANTED HER TO KNOW HOW MUCH I APPRECIATED HER FOR IT.

THEN ONE NIGHT AFTER HER SET, EVERYTHING WENT SOUTH.

BENNUN!

HE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE! HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME!

OH, GREEDO! I'M SCARED!

HE'S STILL ALIVE.

I'M HERE NOW. TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED.

I'VE SEEN HIM IN THE CLUB. HE'S ALWAYS WATCHING ME. I TOLD HIM I HAD A GUY.

IT WAS AN EASY ENOUGH STORY TO BELIEVE. SHE WAS INTOXICATING.

I'VE SEEN HIM AROUND. HE'S PART OF JABBA'S SECURITY.

WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE'LL HAVE IT IN FOR ME. I'M HEADED FOR THE SARLACC *PIT* FOR SURE!

LISTEN TO ME, BENNUN. I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU!

I GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE. DID YOU DO WHAT I ASKED?

IS THAT SHIP OF YOURS READY?

I TOOK CARE OF IT ALL. THE CODES, THE SHIP, EVERYTHING.

WE COULD START A WHOLE NEW LIFE TOGETHER OFF WORLD. BUT I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF A FEW THINGS.

MEET ME AT THE FOOD COURT IN ***MOS EISLEY*** IN AN HOUR.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS GUARD AND MEET YOU THERE.

"MY DARLING...

"...I CAN'T WAIT TO START OUR LIFE TOGETHER...

KEEP HIM OUT OF SIGHT FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS. NO FEEDING ON HIM.

"TODAY IS THE BEGINNING OF OUR NEW LIVES.

"<WE'LL BE TOGETHER SOON...>"

"I TRANSFERRED ALL THE CODES TO YOU."

"YOU'RE THE BEST, BABY. THERE'S NO ONE LIKE YOU IN THE GALAXY.

"I'LL BE THERE SOON AND THEN WE CAN LEAVE... TOGETHER..."

I HAD BEEN WAITING FOR HER FOR HOURS...

...WHEN A MIRACLE HAPPENED.

‹WELL, WELL...›

‹I THOUGHT I KNEW YOU. GREEDO... COME HAVE A DRINK. I'M WAITING FOR A SPECIAL FRIEND. I DON'T LIKE TO DRINK ALONE.›

‹THANK YOU, MY LORD!›

THIS WAS MY BIG CHANCE.

<THE TRUTH IS, I'M A NEW HUTT THESE DAYS. A FATHER TO YOUNG *ROTTA.* JUST A TADPOLE.>

<I HEARD THE NEWS. CONGRATULATIONS!>

<THE GUILD DIDN'T BOTHER TO GET HIM A PRESENT. RUDE.>

I PLAYED IT AS COOL AS I COULD.

<THE PRESSURES ON ME ARE AS GREAT AS MY EXALTED SELF!>

<THE SEPARATISTS ATTACKING HYPERSPACE TRADE ROUTES AND OTHER ROGUE ELEMENTS CUTTING INTO MY PROFITS. DISLIKE!>

<EVERYBODY WANTS SOMETHING FROM ME. I SAY A GREAT HUTT LIKE ME DESERVES A LITTLE LOVE!>

<YOU TRY TO GET JOBS AND NOT BOTCH THEM SO THAT YOU CAN GET BETTER GUILD JOBS.>

<IF IT WASN'T FOR HER, I DON'T KNOW HOW'D I'D MAKE IT THROUGH.>

<HO, HO! YES! BUT I MUST BE DISCREET.>

<CAN I TELL YOU A SECRET? I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET HER HERE.>

<WHAT! NO WAY! I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET MY GAL HERE!>

<TO LOVE!>

<TO LOVE!>

<WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT. JUST A HUTT AND RODIAN WAITING FOR THEIR DREAM.>

<I LIKE YOU, GREEDO. YOU CAN GO FAR IF YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT!>

CRACKLE

EVERYTHING WAS WITHIN MY GRASP.

<YOU SEE! MY WORK NEVER ENDS, EVEN WHEN I TRY TO SLIP AWAY.>

<WHAT IS IT?>

<SHE'S GONE. WORD IS SHE LEFT THE PLANET, AND SHE TOOK THE STARBURST GEM WITH HER.>

<WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M MEETING BENNUN GLAU HERE IN MOS EISLEY! SHE WOULDN'T TRICK ME.>

<SHE'S GONE. IT MUST HAVE BEEN A PLOY TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY.>

<SHE HAD HELP. SPIES SAY A RODIAN WAS ALWAYS HANGING AROUND HER.>

<YOU! YOU'LL NEVER WORK ON THIS PLANET AGAIN.>

<I SWEAR I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS YOUR GAL! SHE DUPED ME TOO!>

<I'M GOING TO MAKE IT RIGHT!>

<YOU'D BETTER OR IT'S YOUR HEAD!!>

WHERE'S MY SHIP?

YOUR SHIP? A LADY TOOK IT. SAID YOU GAVE IT TO HER. SHE HAD THE CODES.

GIVE ME ANY SHIP THAT'LL FLY! I'LL GET YOU THE CREDITS LATER. MY LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!

WHERE ARE YOU, BENNUN?

WHICHEVER WAY I LOOKED, DEATH WAS LOOKING BACK.

PEW

PEW

I THOUGHT YOU'D TAKE THE HINT. I WANT TO BREAK UP.

JABBA IS GOING TO PICK HIS TEETH WITH ME, BENNUN. GIVE ME THE ***STARBURST GEM*** AND I'LL LET YOU GET AWAY.

NOT ON YOUR LIFE.

I'LL-I'LL HUNT YOU DOWN! WHEREEVER YOU GO! I'M A RUTHLESS BOUNTY HUNTER!

INDEED. HOW ABOUT MY LIFE FOR A TIP. THERE'S A ROGUE WOOKIEE PLAGUING JABBA IN THIS QUADRANT.

WE BOTH KNEW I WAS BLUFFING.

I'LL LEAD YOU TO THE WOOKIEE. THE LONG-TERM IN WITH JABBA WOULD BE WORTH MORE THAN THIS GEM.

AHHHHHHHH! FINE!

GOOD GREEDO. THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES.

I LET HER SLIP THROUGH MY FINGERS BECAUSE SHE STILL HAD MY HEART.

AND SO I SETTLED FOR HER CONSOLATION PRIZE. THE WOOKIEE WAS EASY ENOUGH TO FIND.

PEW

PEW

CUT YOUR ENGINES AND PREPARE TO BE BOARDED.

GGRAAARRRGGG!

ARRRGRRR?

SAVE IT FOR SOMEONE WHO SPEAKS WOOKIEE.

AWWWRRRRR

YOU'RE MY TICKET BACK INTO THE PALACE.

ARRRGRRR?

<YOU DARE SHOW YOUR FACE IN MY PALACE AGAIN, GREEDO, AFTER WHAT YOU DID? I SHOULD FEED YOU TO THE PIT.>

<SHALL WE REMOVE HIM, MOST EXCELLENT JABBA?>

<WAIT! HEAR ME OUT!>

<MOST EXALTED JABBA. YOUR TRADE CORRIDORS HAVE BEEN PLAGUED BY A ROGUE WOOKIEE.>

<WHILE I HAVE FAILED TO BRING BACK YOUR GEM, I HAVE BROUGHT YOU AN EVEN BIGGER PRIZE! >

ARRRGRRR?

<I OFFER THIS WOOKIEE AS PAYMENT TO MAKE AMENDS FOR THE SLIGHT I CAUSED YOU.>

AWWWRRRRR

<WHO IS THAT? IT'S NOT THE ROGUE, IS HE?>

<NO. WE THREW THAT WOOKIEE TO THE BLADE PIT LAST WEEK, MY ILLUSTRIOUS JABBA.>

BENNUN HAD BETRAYED ME AGAIN.

‹TELL HIM WHO YOU ARE!›

ARRRGRRR?

‹HE SAYS HE IS BREWHADA. A TOYMAKER. IN THIS SECTOR SOURCING NEW MATERIALS, FABRICS, WOODS, ETC. FOR HIS FACTORY.›

‹TOY MAKER?!?!›

I'M DEAD. I'M TOTALLY DEAD. SHE KILLED ME.

THAT'S WHEN THE WAY OUT OF THIS MESS HIT ME.

‹YES! IT IS MY GIFT TO YOU ON THE ARRIVAL OF ROTTA!›

‹THIS TOYMAKER WILL GLADLY MAKE A CUSTOM TOY FIT FOR A PRINCELING.›

‹HO HO HO! GREEDO, YOU REMEMBERED MY ROTTA! COME CLOSER.›

<FOR THIS TOUCHING GESTURE, I WILL REMOVE THE BOUNTY OFF YOUR HEAD.>
<THANK YOU, MOST EXALTED ONE. YOU WON'T REGRET IT.>
<I REGRET IT ALREADY.>
<BUT IT DOES NOT ERASE LOSING MY TWO GEMS, THE SUNBURST AND MY BEAUTIFUL BENNUN.>
<BY MY CALCULATIONS YOU ARE INDEBTED TO ME FOR LIFE.>
<YES, JABBA. I AM AT YOUR COMMAND.>
AAARRRRODORRR!
<IN EXCHANGE FOR A CUSTOM LINE OF TOYS, THE WOOKIEE BREWHADA ASKS FOR TROUBLE-FREE MOVEMENT AND DISCOUNT TRADE IN THIS SECTOR.>
<NO. BREWHADA WILL STAY HERE AS PERSONAL TOYMAKER FOR ROTTA.>
<BUT MY GENEROSITY IS GREAT. I'LL ALLOW HIM TO STILL DESIGN FOR HIS FACTORY ON *KASHYYYK*.>
<I'LL TAKE A CUT OF ALL PROFITS OF HIS TOY FACTORY. WIN-WIN FOR US ALL! WELL DONE, GREEDO!>
<NOW! LET THE MUSIC BEGIN!>

<AND THAT'S HOW I GOT WHAT I FINALLY WANTED. TO WORK EXCLUSIVELY FOR JABBA. NOW GO TO SLEEP, ROTTA.>

AWWWRRRRR

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'VE HEARD THE STORY A MILLION TIMES. IT MAKES THE KID SLEEPY!

SURE, IT WAS A LOWLY GIG IN THE PALACE, BUT FROM THEN ON, JABBA ALWAYS KNEW WHO I WAS.

I WAS FINALLY ON MY WAY UP THE LADDER.

THE END

COMING AUGUST 2ND!